(vii) All the facilities available to the coolies should be displayed on the Notice Boards at the station and should also be advised to the unions.

(c) The licensed porters are appointed on the recommendation of a Selection Board constituted for the purpose. Since the coolies are not railway employees, they are not entitled to the facilities given to the railway employees. However, licensed porters, their spouses and dependent children can avail of the medical facilities in the railway hospitals and the health units. Two red shirts are supplied tc them every year as uniform. In addition, it has also been decided to supply one set of winter uniform to them. 75% concession is allowed to them for travel by rail. Badges of coolies are transferred to the dependants/successors by the competent authority subject to fulfilment of certain terms and conditions and it is not possible to delegate these powers to Station Manager, Kanpur. Since the Lincensed Porters are meant for carrying of luggage of the passengers, they are not normally utilised for handling of parcels/goods at the station. Adequate arrangements exist for managing matters relating to Lincensed Porters at Kanpur Station.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Coverage of Doordarshan in States

1005. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of population covered by Doordarshan in each State;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide cent percent coverage in all the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C M IBRAHIM): (a) to (c). Whereas the satellite derived service of Doordarshan is available to both 100% population as well as area of the country with the help of an appropriate dish antenna system, terrestrial transmission is also available to an estimated 85.8% population of the country as per the Statewise details given in the Statement enclosed. With a view to provide terrestrial TV service to the population living in hitherto uncovered areas, 476 TV transmitters of varying power are presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the country, depending on availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities required for the purpose. On commissioning of these projects, terrestrial TV service is expected to be available to an estimated 92.8% population of the country.

STATEMENT

Population-wise TV Coverage in States/Union Territories (As on 21.11.1996)

S.No.	State/U.T.	Present coverage (%age of population)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	81.9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	44.4
3.	Assam	82.0
4.	Bihar	93.0
5.	Delhi	99.9
6.	Goa	99.9
7.	Gujarat	80.5
8.	Haryana	98.5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	64.5
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	91.7
11.	Karnataka	69.9
12	Kerala	87.0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	70.9
14.	Maharashtra	85.2
15.	Manipur	66.4
16.	Meghalaya	97.2
17.	Mizoram	72.3
18.	Nagaland	47.2
19.	Orissa	82.0
20	Punjab	99.9
21.	Rajasthan	64.4
22.	Sikkim	95.0
23	Tamilnadu	91.3
24	Tripura	93.3
25.	Uttar Pradesh	92.4
26.	West Bengal	96.0
27.	A and N Islands	99.0
28	Chandigarh	99.9
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	43.6
30.	Daman and Diu	99.9
31.	L Dweep Islands	99.0
32	Pondicherry	99.9
	National Average	85.8

Closing Down Siemens Factories

1006. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Siemens proposes to shut down its two factories at

Aurangabad and Calcutta which have been practically idle since inception due to lack of orders from the Department of Telecommunications;

(b) if so, the number of persons likely to be rendered unemployed as a result of the proposed closure of these factories; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for their rehabilitation/welfare?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Promotion of Cultural Tourism

1007 SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to draw a plan for the improvement of cultural ambience around the tourist spots in the country;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments are being consulted in this regard;

(c) the tourist spots identified by the State Government of Orissa;

(d) whether the Union Government have asked the India Tourism Development Corporation to prepare plan and programme for the purpose;

(e) if so, the scheme prepared by the India Tourism Development Corporation in the matter; and

(f) the details of the places selected by ITDC as the venue of the cultural festival scheduled for the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism has a new scheme for Refurkishment of monuments under which financial assistance is provided to State Governments to improve the surroundings of the monuments/heritage sites. The assistance is provided for the projects identified in consultation with State Governments.

(c) The following projects have been identified for Central financial assistance

1. Refurbishment of monuments heritage sites Ratnagiri.
2. Refurbishment of monuments heritage sites at Lalitgiri.
3. Refurbishment of monuments heritage sites at Udaigiri.

(d) No Sir.

(e) and (f). Does not arise.

[Translation]

Distribution of Postal Articles in Rural Areas

1008. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the details of the categories of employees engaged for the delivery of postal articles in rural areas along with the details of the facilities/pay scale given to them;

(b) whether these employees are not satisfied with their duties;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there are any complaints regarding postal delivery in rural areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (f) As on 31.03.1996, 79958 Extra Departmental Delivery Agents are entrusted with the job of postal deliver work in rural areas of the country. The Extra Departmental Delivery Agents are entitled to consolidated monthly allowances ranging between Rs. 240/- and Rs. 420/- depending on their workload. In addition, they are also paid the following:

(i) Dearness Allowance @ 159% of basic allowance;

(ii) Interim Relief of Rs. 50 w.e.f. 16.9.93, 10% each subject to Minimum of Rs. 50/- w.e.f. 1.4.95 and 1.4.96 respectively.

(iii) Fixed Stationery Charges @ Rs. 2/- per month.

(iv) Cycle Maintenance Allowance where applicable @ Rs. 30/- per month.

(v) Ex-gratia bonus paid once a year on the basis of their actual emoluments for the same number of days as paid to departmental employees.

(vi) Uttarakhand Division Allowance.

The Extra Departmental Agents of Uttarkhand Division are being paid on extra allowance of Rs. 40/- per annum in the month of September every year provided they have worked continuously as Extra Departmental Agent since March of that year.

(vii) Group Insurance Scheme

The Extra Departmental Agents are also covered by a Group Insurance Scheme with effect from 1.4.1992. The scheme is optional for the Extra Departmental Agents already in employment before 1.4.1994 and is compulsory for the Extra Departmental Agents appointed on or after 1.4.1992. The scheme